

**2025 GIVING REMINDER** – all offerings to the church to be counted as 2025 giving, **MUST PHYSICALLY BE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE by December 31<sup>st</sup>.** Anything received after December 31, including any mailed in contributions, must be counted towards 2026 giving. THANK YOU!

**2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES have arrived! Please pick up your box TODAY from the back of the church.** Even if you give your donations electronically, a box was printed for you because the box contains “special offering opportunities” throughout the year. **We’d like to have most of these gone before Christmas, so we have more space.** If you see a friend’s box, please consider delivering it to them. Thank You!



**WALK  
THRU<sup>THE</sup>  
BIBLE<sup>®</sup>**

**TAKE A WALK. CHANGE THE WORLD.**

**Join us here at St. Matthew for this “otLive” event as we experience the Old Testament like never before!** This event is *“A Walk Thru the Old Testament – Teaching the Big Picture of the Old Testament.”* Many believers are confused about the Old Testament – what it says, what it means, how to apply it to daily life. Some wonder if it is even relevant today. Some are overwhelmed by it and don’t know how to read it. **This event is for anyone 5<sup>th</sup> Grade through Adult. Reserve a spot on your calendar for Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00AM-12:30PM. Lunch will be served. Please sign-up on the sheet located in the Great Hall so we can do our planning.**  
**Thank You!**



FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

December 21, 2025  
Sunday School Christmas Program

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
Worthington, MN (507) 376-6168**

Administrative Pastor, Rev. David G. Hahn – ext. 3

Administrative Assistant, Bev Spittle – ext. 2

Director of Human Care & Children's Ministries, Roxann Leckband – ext. 5

Youth, Alexie & David Cross – ext. 4

Director of Music, Lorenda Glade – ext. 6

Email – [stmattchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmattchurchoffice@gmail.com)

Website – [www.stmatthewworthington.com](http://www.stmatthewworthington.com)

Facebook.com/stmattworthington

**A warm welcome to you.** Members & Visitors: Please complete a yellow “caring card” **each time you attend a service.** They can be found in the pew racks. Please place your completed card in the offering plate. If you have a **Prayer Request**, please put that information on the back of the card. Thank You!

THOSE MINISTERING AMONG US TODAY

Organist/Keyboardist	Lorenda
Elders	Greg, Paul
Acolyte	Jace
Tech Crew	Bryon, Bev, Lynn

**Let us remember in our prayers:** *Bill, Lula, Bill, Logan, Judy!, and those we name in our hearts.*

**Altar flowers** were given “To the Glory of God” by Voris & Sandie Spittle.

**Upcoming Worship Schedule:**

- **Christmas Eve – services at 5PM and 7PM**
- **Christmas Day – service at 9AM (communion)**
- **Sunday, Dec. 28 – One Service at 9AM**
- **January 4 – 8AM Classic & 10:15AM Modern**

***A special THANK YOU*** to our Sunday School teachers, helpers, and everyone who was involved with our program today! It could not have been done without your dedicated help. You are very much appreciated!

**Jesus’ Birthday Party**  
**Tuesday, December 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**This celebration is for all ages!**

**Kids & Families: Please join us** for games, crafts, a Bible story, treats and a light lunch. We will meet downstairs.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

Monday	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 11:00 a.m. Widows Group in Fireside Room
Tuesday	8:30 a.m. Bible Study in Conference Room 12:00 p.m. <i>Bulletin Deadline</i>
Wednesday	<b>5:00 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP</b> <b>7:00 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP</b>
Thursday	<b>9:00 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP</b> <i>Church Office Closed</i>
Friday	<i>Church Office Closed</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Blended Worship Service</b>

**Attention Parents:** there is NO Sunday School NEXT Sunday, December 29. Classes will resume on January 4.

**When the Winter Weather is questionable, we publicize in many ways to get the word out about cancellations, etc.:**

- \*A post on our FACEBOOK page will be the FIRST thing we do.
- \*A "push notification" will be done on our church App.
- \*Go to the local radio station website, [www.myradioworks.net](http://www.myradioworks.net) and check their weather announcements.
- \*Tune into the local radio stations: 730AM and FM stations 93.5, 104.3 and 95.1; however, their verbal announcements are not updated as quickly as their website it.

**Attention Parents:** *If District 518 schools cancel or close early, DUE TO THE WEATHER, there will be NO evening activities at the church either.*

Please take note: the Church Office will be CLOSED on Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank You!

***Thank you for joining us this morning.  
God's Blessings on your week.  
Merry Christmas!***

## **Today's Order of Service:**

*Holy Communion will be distributed about 10 minutes after the service for anyone wishing to partake.*

***\*Congregation, please join in on the bold printed items\****

Preservice Music by Sunday School Piano Students

Announcements/Ringing of the Bell/Welcome

**Call to Worship Song** ***"Come to Us, O Promised One/  
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"***

**Invocation**

**Confession of Sins**

**God's Assurance of Forgiveness**

**Prayers of the Church**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Opening Litany**

**Hymn** ***"O Come, All Ye Faithful" vs. 1-3 LSB 379***

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS:**

Preschool-Grade 3 Program: "Journey to the Manger" Written by Alayne Smith; Copyright 2015 Creative Communications for the Parish; modified for this program; Used by permission.

Children's Song:    *"Mary Had a Baby Boy"*  
                              *"Do You Know Who Died for Me?"*  
                              *"Silent Night"*  
                              *"Away in a Manger"*  
                              *"Nine Little Shepherds"*  
                              *"A Savior Born"*  
                              ***"I'm As Happy As Can Be"***  
                                  **(Congregation will join singing on**  
                                  **the 2<sup>nd</sup> time through.)**

*The younger students will go sit with their parents while the older students prepare for their program.*

Grades 4-8 Program: "Journey to Christmas: Meet the Savior"

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Welcome - A Word from our Sponsor, The Bible  
"Journey to Christmas: Meet the Savior," The Greatest  
Story Ever Told.

The Biblical Prophesies

Song "*Even So, Come*"

Act 1: John the Baptist Prepares the Way  
Zechariah and Elizabeth receive incredible news.

**Students & Congregation Sing – "*On Jordan's Bank  
the Baptist's Cry*" LSB 344 (vs. 1-2)**

Act 2: Mary and Joseph

It's Mary's turn to receive incredible news.

Solo – "*Breath of Heaven*" Addison Barrie-Cross, Soloist  
(Offering is received during the song.)

Mary breaks the news.

Student Song – "*Mary Did You Know?*"

Joseph makes a decision.

Student Song – "*Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)*"

Act 3: To Bethlehem!

Caesar Augustus issues a decree.

**Students & Congregation - "*O Little Town of  
Bethlehem*" LSB 361 (vs. 1)**

Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem. Christ the Savior  
is born!

**Students & Congregation – "*Gentle Mary Laid Her  
Child*" LSB 374 (vs. 1, 3)**

Act 4: Shepherds and Magi

Shepherds are the first to hear the Good News!

Student Song – "*Holy Forever*"

Wise Men from afar seek and find the Holy Child.

**Students & Congregation – "*As with Gladness Men  
of Old*" LSB 397 (vs. 1-2)**

And now, the conclusion of today's program – but not the end  
of the Story!

**Students & Congregation – "*What Child Is This?*"  
LSB 370 (vs. 1-2)**

Closing Prayer

Benediction

**Recessional Hymn "*Joy to the World*" LSB 387 (vs. 1,3,4)**